

a habit we are on difficult ground : both affect conduct and it is only by observing conduct that we obtain any glimpses into character. But we may define the former as an impulse which is innately strong, the latter as an impulse which has been reinforced artificially by the routine of behaviour. The one proceeds directly from the influences of the environment—in what fashion we may not be able to understand—and becomes implanted in the race ; the other is of man's own cultivation, under the pressure of circumstances, and needs to be sown afresh in each generation. The influence of our surroundings has thus been felt by us in two directions : it has modified the race, and it has swayed very powerfully the progress of culture.

There appears to be no reason in the nature of things why environal influences should not affect the reproductive capacity of a race and increase or diminish its *innate* fertility. They certainly may lessen the fecundity of individuals. There are some facts to show that the reproductive functions may be innately modified by locality. The *Eschscholtzia*, for instance, in Brazil must be cross-fertilized : flowers will not bear seed under the influence of their own pollen. But in England it becomes occasionally self-fertile, and self-fertilized seed appears to produce stronger plants than seed which has resulted from crossing.

When, however, we are dealing with mankind we depend for evidence upon birth and death rates, and these may be affected by such diverse causes—many of them quite unconnected with environment—that we can hardly find material for conclusions which are not ambiguous. There is an extraordinary difference between the birth-rates